



**United States Attorney's Office  
District of Columbia**

**Jeffrey A. Taylor  
United States Attorney**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Maryland Man Pleads Guilty to Shooting Unarmed District Teenager on Anacostia Metro Platform**

WASHINGTON - A 25-year-old Maryland man, Jerome Ray Rollins, pled guilty today to shooting a 15-year-old district teenager on the Anacostia Metro Station platform in front of a crowd of people, U.S. Attorney Jeffrey A. Taylor announced.

Rollins pled guilty to one count of Aggravated Assault while Armed for the February 15, 2009 shooting. Rollins faces a maximum statutory penalty of 20 years incarceration, and a guidelines range of 6 to 12 years in prison under the District of Columbia Sentencing Commission's Voluntary Sentencing Guidelines, when he is sentenced by the Honorable Robert I. Richter on June 3, 2009.

At today's hearing, Rollins was placed under oath and admitted that just after midnight on February 15, 2009, he assaulted the minor victim while they were on the train because he was frustrated with the teenager's behavior. The altercation between Rollins and the minor victim spilled onto the platform at the Anacostia Metro Station. Rollins then pulled out a loaded 9mm Taurus handgun and shot the unarmed minor in the stomach and fled the station. Metro Transit Police officers, who were on the platform at the time of the shooting, chased Rollins as he fled the scene and apprehended him within minutes of the shooting. Metro Transit Police officers recovered the 9mm Taurus handgun from the immediate area where Rollins was apprehended and a firearms examination confirmed it was the same handgun used to shoot the minor victim. The shooting was captured by video surveillance cameras on the station's platform.

As a result of the shooting, the 15-year-old victim suffered serious bodily injury and substantial risk of death from the injury as a result of the shooting. To save his life, the victim underwent extensive surgery which resulted in removal of a portion of his intestines and required

over thirty staples to close his wounds. The injury to the minor victim's leg will likely be permanent, causing him to walk with a significant limp.

In announcing the guilty plea, U.S. Attorney Taylor praised the work of Metro Transit Police Detective Kenneth Honick, the lead detective assigned, along with Detective Brian Baker, and Officers Sherman Benton, Michael Bacon, Stephen Deveau, Justin Mercure, and Jeffrey Miller who assisted in the apprehension of Rollins and investigation of the case. He also praised the work of Legal Assistant Antoinette Sakamsa. Mr. Taylor also commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Erin B. Andrews, who investigated and prosecuted this case.

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